# EPICS Base development at NSLS2 Unit-testing Records

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### What is a unit-test

- ... according to Michael
- Isolated
  - No interactions with the outside world
  - Repeatable (by resetting state)
- In process
  - Inspection of memory
- Fast
  - Run lots of test cases quickly

### What to unit-test?

- When does unit-testing made sense?
  - When all state in software
  - subRecord and asubRecord
  - Complex DB logic
- Hardware?
  - HW is stateful
  - Isolation often not possible
  - Other forms of testing more appropriate

## Unit-testing in 3.15

- dbUnitTest.h
  - Added in 3.15.1
- Allows unit-testing of Database records
  - Records and support code initialized
  - Scanning threads started
  - initHooks run
  - ...
- Isolated
  - CA\_LINKs disabled
  - RSRV not started

## Unit-testing in 3.15 (2)

- Shutdown of core IOC
  - Scan/callbacks threads stopped
  - Record structs free'd
- Not complete shutdown
  - No hooks for record/device support cleanup
  - eg. Array fields of aSubRecord are leaked
- Local CA\_LINKs
  - Never connect (planned feature for 3.16)

## New testing API example

```
static void doTest(void) {
    testdbPrepare();
    testdbReadDatabase("utest.dbd", NULL, NULL);
    utest registerRecordDeviceDriver(pdbbase);
    testdbReadDatabase("dut.db", NULL, "N=test:,A=42");
    testlocInitOk();
    /* Test stuff here */
    testOk1(...);
    testdbPutFieldOk("rec:name", DBR LONG, 1);
    testdbGetFieldEqual("rec:name", DBR LONG, 1);
    testlocShutdownOk();
    testdbCleanup();
```

Full example at https://github.com/mdavidsaver/utestdemo

#### Future additions

- Extend testing API
  - Convenience wrappers for common operations
- Expand testable parts of Base (and beyond)
  - Local CA and CA\_LINKs
  - SNL program + Records
- Cleanup hooks for record/device support